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whose works circulate where no vindication can follow them, should make such unworthy use of his position, in a measure beyond the reach of responsibility, to tarnish reputations which are amongst the most precious heir-looms of the American people. Our generals may not have been accomplished officers, they had few opportunities of learning the profession of arms, they made occasional mistakes; so did Cæsar and Wellington: but they patiently sacrificed fortune, health, life, in the cause of our national independence; and it seems a sacrilege, in these degenerate days, to pass harsh judgment upon their services, or deprive them of their well-earned laurels.

JANUARY MEETING.—1867.

A stated monthly meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, January 10th, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; the President, the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The Librarian announced donations from the American Antiquarian Society; the Royal University of Norway; the Trustees of Oberlin College; the Editors of the "Advocate"; the Proprietors of the Savannah "Daily Republican"; John Appleton, M.D.; Rev. Richard B. Duane; George W. Greene, Esq.; Albert D. Hager, Esq.; Benjamin P. Johnson, Esq.; George H. Moore, Esq.; Joel Munsell, Esq.; Messrs. Newman and Scovill; M. C. Richardson, Esq.; David T. Valentine, Esq.; Hon. Henry Wilson; and from Messrs. E. Ames, Bemis,

W. G. Brooks, Chandler, Deane, Ellis, Green, C. Robbins, Saltonstall (sixty-seven volumes), and Winthrop, of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters of acceptance from General John Meredith Read, jun., of Albany; and from Mr. Henry G. Denny, of Dorchester.

A letter from C. C. Haven, Esq., of Trenton, N.J., was read, asking the Society's acceptance of a bound pamphlet of seventy-two pages, entitled "Thirty Days in New Jersey, ninety years ago," written by himself, for which due acknowledgments were voted.

The President called the attention of members to a number of volumes (sixty-seven in all) lying upon the table, — a gift from our associate, Mr. Saltonstall, of books which formerly belonged to the library of his father, the Hon. Leverett Saltonstall.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Saltonstall for this valuable gift to the library.

The President communicated, from Count Adolphe de Circourt, of Paris, a pamphlet of forty-six pages, — containing an article, written by the latter for the "Revue Britannique," on "Les Origines de la République des Etats-Unis," — being a review of the "Life and Letters of John Winthrop," vol. i., 1864, by Robert C. Winthrop; and "The History of New England," by John Winthrop, edited by James Savage, 1853.

The President presented to the Society an old manuscript quarto volume, in the handwriting of President Dunster, of Harvard College, and formerly the property of Dr. Belknap. It was presented to Mr. Winthrop by Miss Elizabeth Belknap, 26th February, 1858. The

volume contains many papers of historical interest, one of which, relating to the "Christian experience" of the elder Governor Winthrop, the President had published in the "Life and Letters of John Winthrop," in 1864. The volume was referred to the Publishing Committee.

The President said, that he had received a communication from our distinguished Honorary Member, Mr. GEORGE PEABODY, which he was sure would be listened to with high gratification, and with deep gratitude, by every member present. He then proceeded to read the following letter:—

BOSTON, January 1, 1867.

To the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP,
President of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have for some time desired to gratify a wish which I once expressed to you; and, while I should at the same time mark my strong personal esteem and regard for yourself, and my appreciation of the past labors and researches of the venerable and distinguished Society of which you are President, to contribute, in some degree, to extend its future usefulness, and preserve its valued memorials.

With these objects in view, therefore, I beg to present, through you, to the Massachusetts Historical Society, the sum of twenty thousand dollars, in the five per cent. $\frac{1}{8}$ coupon bonds of the United States, bearing accrued interest from the first of September last; which bonds, or their proceeds, shall be held by them as a permanent trust-fund, of which the income shall be appropriated to the publication and illustration of their Proceedings and Memoirs, and to the preservation of their Historical Portraits.

I will thank you to do me the favor to communicate this to the Society at their next meeting, to be held on the 10th inst.

I am, with great respect, your humble servant,

GEORGE PEABODY.

Dr. ELLIS then offered the following Resolutions:—

Resolved, That the members of the Massachusetts Historical Society have listened with profound gratification to the reading, by their

President, of the letter of Mr. GEORGE PEABODY accompanying his gift to the Society of TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS; and that it is with the sincerest gratitude to the munificent donor, that we thus find ourselves sharers in the comprehensive generosity which has been exercised in England and in the United States, with such varied, discriminating, and admirable adaptation to so many noble interests of humanity, science, and liberal culture.

Resolved, That we recognize this noble gift as especially opportune in time and occasion; and as peculiarly adapted, in the purposes which its donor assigns for it, to what have recently been felt to be the most pressing wants of the Society. We therefore hereby pledge ourselves, and would bind our successors, to a faithful keeping and improvement of the fund, to be called, henceforward, "The Peabody Fund," of which we are thus put in possession; having regard alike to the conditions so intelligently set forth by Mr. Peabody, and to the importance of the special objects he has aimed to serve.

Resolved, That our best appreciation of this gift, and the most fitting return which we can make to its donor, will be in our finding in it, individually and as a Society, a new and continued incentive to industry, earnestness, and fidelity in pursuing the investigations and labors for which we are here associated.

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to Mr. Peabody a copy of these resolutions; and to assure him that his gift is gratefully received, and shall be faithfully used.

Dr. ELLIS then spoke as follows:—

While we are content to repeat much the same familiar words and forms of speech, in asking for favors, we often wish that we had new and fresh terms for acknowledging them. We should be glad to have a more ample range, and a fuller variety of expressions of recognition and gratitude. We feel that we might then adapt our acknowledgments of obligation for a favor received to the special occasion, to the opportuneness, and to the present and prospective value of the benefit conferred, and thus avoid the generalities and commonplaces of thankful acknowledgment.

So at least I felt, Mr. President, when, at your request, I set myself to draw up the formal resolutions of gratitude to

our new benefactor, that should at the same time convey a personal tribute which we might hope would be acceptable to him, and express our high estimate of the opportuneness and value of his gift. There is something about the personality and the individuality of that honored and munificent man, something in the nature and method of his wide liberality, something in the concise forms and in the dignified simplicity of the writings which accompany his trust-funds, defining their conditions and uses,—there is something in the style in which he thus confers great favors, which would naturally prompt the recipients of them to make a careful choice of their words of thankfulness and appreciation. For, if of any one benefactor of his own and of coming generations a wide notoriety for the multiplicity and variety and amount of his gifts might prompt a reiteration of the same epithets and praises, it will be difficult for writers in newspapers, and drawers-up of resolutions, to vary their eulogiums of him who now stands before the world as the example of a more than princely munificence, distributed in his native and in his adopted country to the most wisely chosen and the best discriminated objects. We can well imagine that all fulsome and extravagant terms would fail to find in him the weak spot of vanity or susceptibility, while still his modesty is conjoined with so true a discernment, and so practical a good sense, that he will not be indifferent to the fitness of the responses made to him by those whom he favors. He will expect to be assured of their purposes of fidelity in holding and using the trust-funds which he commits to them. Indeed, it has seemed to me, that the more ambitious of our rising young business men who are eager for great acquisitions, may find Mr. Peabody betraying to them, in some sort, the secret of the method of his vast gathering of wealth in the method of his distribution of it. Those accumulations of his, we know, with whatever felicities of good fortune he had to help him, must have engaged the patient, steady, and persistent exer-

cise of an inquisitive and discreet mind, given to practical dealing with the complicated affairs of business. He devotes much careful thought and scrutiny to informing himself about the enterprises and institutions to be benefited by his generosity. Putting himself into relations of confidence with their official representatives, he learns their actual purposes and wants. The impulse or the aid, which he gives to any object that commends itself to him, is accompanied, in its announcement or direction, by some sagacious counsel, readily inferred if not distinctly expressed. I suppose, Mr. President, though you have been silent on the point, that we are at liberty to imagine some friendly offices of your own in behalf of the Society, through your confidential relations with Mr. Peabody. He has certainly become well acquainted with our wants, and has met them when and where we have most sensibly felt them.

How valuable to us is his gift, how adapted to our special objects, and how timely it is, most of us know very well; but some of us who have labor in hand for the Society, arrested in its progress by the state of our treasury, have occasion, as our circumstances were till to-day, to regard this special benefaction as carrying us happily over a critical moment.

This is the third occasion, during the last dozen years, on which the Society, at its monthly meetings here, has found a grateful variety, even in the most agreeable routine of its business, in listening to the announcement of great favors conferred upon it. In December, 1854, the Treasurer read to us a communication from the Trustees acting under the will of the late honored and exemplary Samuel Appleton, one of Boston's foremost merchants, conveying to us the sum of ten thousand dollars, in trust, for a specified purpose, — "the procuring, preservation, preparation, and publication of historical papers." The volumes of our Collections, since published, bear upon their titlepages the best token of the value of that gift.

At a special meeting of the Society, August 5th, 1856, we had our first intimation of the intentions of the late Mr. Thomas Dowse, of Cambridge, to make us the inheritors of that most precious portion of the wealth he was about to leave behind him,—his costly and unique library. At our annual meeting, April 9th, 1857, after transacting our formal business in the outer rooms, with a quickened expectation of what was to follow, we were ushered, with due ceremonial, into this elegant apartment, thenceforward to be known as the Dowse Library, renewing our gratitude and pleasure as we enter it and sit in it each month of every year. Here we found what we now behold; and were informed that the expenses of transporting the rich contents of the shelves and the cases themselves, and all the furnishings and adornments of the room, were a gratuity to us from the estate of that remarkable man, who felt such pride and joy in gathering, arraying, and reading these books. Nor was even this all. It was announced to us, that his executors, in the exercise of the discretion to which he had committed a residuum of his estate, had even endowed an endowment, by giving to us a fund of ten thousand dollars for its support. Who of us that was present on that delightful occasion will not always associate with the memory of it the modest utterance, and the calmly controlled but full satisfaction, of our late beloved associate,—an example for our emulation in so many graces and virtues,—Mr. George Livermore, to whose relation with Mr. Dowse we are indebted, if not for the prompting, at least for the encouragement of the purpose which resulted in such gain to us.

Still, up to this very day, we were straitened and embarrassed by a lean treasury, and by the lack of such investments and resources as we could look to, year by year, for any thing more than our necessary economical expenses. In the midst of our luxuries, our wants were of the homeliest sort. So the word “opportune” applies, with the utmost appropriate-

ness, to the gift of gold-bearing bonds which Mr. Peabody has already transferred from his banker to the keeping of our Treasurer. The Standing Committee were literally at a stand; and have been so, in a position which is exceedingly uncomfortable when long held, with some of their best intentions arrested for want of money. The materials for a large part of another volume of our "Proceedings," with incidental matters of interest, have been ready for the press for several months; while the enhanced cost of printing has aggravated our deficiency of means. The memoir of our late senior member, the venerable Mr. Quincy, from the pen of Dr. Walker, which has been in our hands nearly a year, and from which we expect so rare and full a pleasure, considering its subject and its writer, has necessarily remained in manuscript. Our Vice-President, Colonel Aspinwall, as Chairman of the Committee for the publication of the next volume of Collections, has ready, as I know from examining them, valuable materials of his own gathering in England, which he has himself annotated. The materials of yet another volume are waiting the opportunities of another Committee. I may add, too, that my own diligence and zeal in discharging the attractive but exacting duty laid upon me by the Society, of editing and illustrating its Proceedings from the beginning, its *origines*, have been somewhat qualified by the thought, that, if I made haste to do my work, it would have to remain long in manuscript. It may be, also, that some of the younger, as well as of the elder, members are postponing their projects or labors in our service, because of the accumulations which we have not been able to put into print.

The fund of which Mr. Peabody has put us in possession is devoted by him to the publication of our Proceedings, and the preservation of our Historical Portraits. These are the two objects which have furnished the matter for lamentation, in the Annual Reports of the Standing Committee, for several years last past. The fund is adequate to its designed uses.

We have in our entrance-room, and in the room above us, many portraits of unquestioned authenticity, and of great and curious interest. They were committed to us as willing and competent guardians, through whose judicious and careful oversight they might pass down into the years of the future with an enhanced value. Now we are better furnished for that guardianship. We pledge ourselves, by the adoption of the Resolutions, sacredly to respect the wishes and conditions expressed by our new benefactor. By doing so, we and our successors shall have much benefit. I therefore respectfully lay before the Society the Resolutions which I have read.

Colonel ASPINWALL then said: —

Mr. PRESIDENT;—I am greatly flattered by the honor you have conferred on me, in desiring me to second the Resolutions, which express our grateful sense of the gift bestowed upon this Society by my old friend, George Peabody.

It is another specimen of the noble uses to which he applies the accumulations of his intelligence and industry; and, in its conditions, furnishes a fresh proof of the sound discrimination and judgment which accompany and guide all the impulses of his benevolence.

In England, where the utterly destitute, the pauper, is substantially provided for at the public expense, Mr. Peabody saw that there was another class, more needing aid than the pauper, struggling for a livelihood, whose hardships would be lessened, and health, hope, and comfort increased, if they could only find homes, moderate in rent, affording facilities for household labor, and supplied with the ordinary means of securing cleanliness and health.

We all know, that he carried out his plan of benefiting and improving this deserving class by a great and munificent donation, which insured him the gratitude of multitudes, who felt the rich blessing he had bestowed on them, and the warm-hearted applause and thanks of the Queen and the nation.

But in this country he saw another state of things. The poor are comparatively few, and their wants are generally met and relieved by our public institutions; while all who are disposed to exert themselves are ordinarily sure of a comfortable subsistence.

Here, then, he turned the current of his bounty in a different direction. He patronized institutions for the improvement of science and the diffusion of knowledge; he established lyceums and libraries, where all could resort, either to hear or to study; and created or aided historical societies, where the history of the past would be investigated, and its documents and archives collected and preserved.

In all this, he has never forgotten the places where he lived in youth or manhood; but in each has left such a valuable memorial of his attachment and his interest in its lasting welfare, as will be gratefully remembered and enjoyed, long after he has finished his mortal career.

It seems as if it were the design of Providence, that he should be raised up as a guide and example to others who, like him, are in circumstances of affluence. We may see that some have already felt the incentive and stimulus to similar efforts and contributions for the good of the present and future generations.

It ought not to be forgotten how little of all his wealth is used for himself. No man leads a less luxurious life. He has no splendid mansion, no retinue of servants, no magnificent carriage or horses, and, whenever it is practicable, not even an attendant beyond the general domestics of the house or hotel in which he may happen to be.

It has been remarked, that Mr. Peabody gives not much in private charity. But I well know, that in days gone by he never withheld his hand or purse whenever a well-authenticated case of distress was brought before him. But in later times the throng of applicants has constantly been so great, that their almost countless letters could not even be read;

and no fortune, however great, would suffice for their craving demands.

The venerable JAMES SAVAGE then rose, and expressed his great pleasure at being able to be present at this meeting. He said : —

I had intended, Mr. President, to second the Resolutions offered by Dr. Ellis; but my friend Colonel Aspinwall has now performed that pleasant duty. I am much pleased with the Resolutions, as they so well express my own sentiments relative to this noble and timely gift, and I hope these proceedings will all go upon our records. I have not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with our benefactor, Mr. Peabody; but his judicious acts of benevolence have given him a world-wide fame. I can remember the early history of the Society; its day of "small things," when their books were few, and they had not room even for them; when the whole property of the Society was not worth as much as the cost of the glass cabinet in the next room; and I cannot help forcibly contrasting that period with its present condition of prosperity. This new addition to its funds should offer a new incentive to action.

Mr. FROTHINGHAM, the Treasurer, then spoke as follows : —

MR. PRESIDENT, — It is with a gratification which I want words fittingly to express, that I welcome the addition, to the resources of the Society, of what is hereafter to be known as the "Peabody Fund." Viewed in connection with the former means of the Society, this endowment is princely in its character. It is, however, but an item in a system of comprehensive munificence, most wisely devised to yield the fruitage of public benefit, which, as it is developed, excites admiration and gratitude at home and abroad.

The way in which the donor has seen fit to bestow this trust on the Society cannot but be gratifying to the members. The letter accompanying it not only refers, in complimentary terms, to the past labors of the Society, but connects the gift with expressions of personal esteem and friendship for our respected President, to whom grateful acknowledgments are due for his successful efforts in promoting its interests, and for eminent service in the cause of historical inquiry.

According to the letter of the donor, the income of this fund is to be appropriated to the publication of the "Proceedings" of the Society, and to the preservation of its Historical Portraits. This will enable the Committee who have the volumes of Proceedings in charge to print copious selections from the material constantly added to our archives, and communications on such subjects as may engage the special attention of the members; and it will allow the entire income of the prior publication fund, the Appleton Fund, to be devoted to the printing of the series of the "Collections" of the Society. This increase of means ought to prove an incentive to fresh labor in behalf of the objects of this institution. Our venerable ex-President (the Hon. James Savage) has referred to the past of the Society,—to its days of small means; and yet, even with such limited resources, the results of well-directed zeal and industry, are the series of volumes of "Collections," stored with materials illustrating American history, which no student in this field of inquiry can afford to neglect. Happy will it be if the fruits of the labors of the members in this day of prosperity shall be judged to be as worthy of the means that are placed at their command.

Reference has been made to the fields that are open to reward historical inquiry. There is the great work of tracing the origin and progress of the ideas and forces that constitute the strength of the Republic, and which enabled it to take to-day the attitude in which it stands before the nations. The donor, during the recent civil war, was in a position, living

in the great commercial centre of London, to note the value of these influences; and he had faith in their power of endurance. A commercial friend, on returning during this period from a European tour, remarked that the only large banking-house in London he could find, that had confidence in the ability of the United States to maintain its credit, was the house of Mr. Peabody. None can doubt that a great element of national strength is the historic influence. This endowment, others of a similar character, and especially the noble trust in connection with Harvard University, may be regarded as a substantial testimonial, from one of the most intelligent merchants of the age, of the value of historical pursuits.

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, Esq., then said:—

It would not be expected of me, Mr. President, after what has been so justly said concerning Mr. Peabody's generous donation to this Society, to make any further remarks, were it not that I hold an official position as Chairman of the Standing Committee.

It may not be known to many of our members, that the Society has been of late much embarrassed by the want of funds sufficient to enable it to proceed with its usual publications. The subject has greatly absorbed the attention of the Standing Committee; and various plans have been projected for relieving its wants, all of which have encountered obstacles proving fatal to their success. It is at such an opportune moment that this large-hearted man has conferred upon the Society so noble a benefaction, that I hardly know how to sufficiently express my thankfulness to him. When viewed in comparison with other donations made by Mr. Peabody, twenty thousand dollars seems a trifling sum; but I believe that in no instance have the recipients of his so freely bestowed wealth been more ready to declare the gift to be ample.

It is sufficient to relieve this Society from all anxiety; to

enable it to proceed in its honorable endeavor to illustrate and perpetuate the valuable material which it possesses or may hereafter acquire; and to permit its ordinary resources to be appropriated to its general requirements.

As has been truly remarked, it ought to be a very great incentive to accomplish more in our chosen field of labor; and I doubt not every member of the Society will so consider it.

We have now the hope of restoring our valuable but fast perishing gallery of portraits; and, by the farther limitation of the bequest, must feel the responsibility strongly impressed upon us to render our monthly Proceedings more than ever valuable in an historical point of view.

I hope, Sir, that Peabody's own portrait may be placed conspicuous among those memorials of honorable men which adorn our walls; as I am sure that few will be regarded by future generations with more interest than his.

The resolutions were then unanimously adopted, all the members rising.

On motion of the Hon. STEPHEN SALISBURY, it was *Voted*, That the Standing Committee be requested to procure a portrait or bust of Mr. PEABODY, to be placed in one of the rooms of the Society.

The President read the following from a printed circular signed by the Executive Committee of the Peabody Museum:—

Peabody Museum of American Archæology and Ethnology.

Through the munificence of Mr. GEORGE PEABODY, of London, a Museum of American Archæology and Ethnology has been established in connection with Harvard College. In carrying out the wishes of the Founder, it is intended to bring together all objects illustrative of, or bearing upon, the origin, early history, manners and customs, and progress towards civilization, of the aboriginal races of North and South

America. In furthering the objects of the above foundation, the undersigned, the Executive Committee, in behalf of the Board of Trustees, are desirous of obtaining any of the following articles :—

1. Implements of stone, — such as axes, gouges, chisels, clubs, pestles, sinkers, tomahawks, mortars, arrow-heads, spear-heads, &c.

2. Articles of earthenware, — such as vases, pots, pipes, bowls, or images of any kind.

3. Bows, arrows, quivers, spears, rattles, drums, shields, snow-shoes, knives, lodges, medicine bags, tobacco pouches, cooking utensils, articles of dress, either of purely aboriginal make, or such as show the gradual contact of the savage and European races.

4. Mummies, skeletons or parts of skeletons, of any of the North or South American races. Of the parts of skeletons, the skulls are always of great importance ; and the long bones of the limbs, and the hip-bones, are of much value.

5. Antiquities, in the form of images or other sculptures, or the casts of them, from Peru, Mexico, Chili, or Central America.

6. Any articles made by, or relating to, the Esquimaux, and the Fuegians or the Patagonians.

It is within the plan of the Founder to make collections relating to the Archæology and Ethnology of other aboriginal races, especially of such articles as have a bearing upon, or help to illustrate, the history of the American races. The trustees are therefore desirous of obtaining crania, skeletons or parts of skeletons, weapons and implements of all kinds, pottery, or any other articles of aboriginal make, from any portion of the world ; also drawings or casts of them, which may serve to show the differences or resemblances between the various human races in their earliest stages of existence.

ROBERT C. WINTHROP,	} <i>Executive</i>
ASA GRAY,	
JEFFRIES WYMAN,	

Committee.

The President then referred to the archæological relics belonging to the Society, deposited in its upper rooms ; and stated that Professor Wyman, the Curator of the Peabody Museum, had expressed a wish to receive these relics, or a selection from them, as a gift or as a deposit, for the use of the Museum.

After remarks by various members, it was *Ordered*, That such aboriginal relics as Professor Wyman should select, belonging to this Society, be, under the direction of the Standing Committee, *deposited* with the "Peabody Museum;" and that a list of every article thus deposited be kept by the Society as well as by the Museum, in order that they may always be recognized as the property of the Historical Society; which now consents to their removal to a new place of deposit, only because it supposes, that, by connecting them with a large collection of other archæological objects, they will be made better to accomplish the purpose of the original donors.

Mr. DEANE read the "last will and testament" of Captain John Smith,* of Virginia and New-England

* From this will it seems certain, that Smith left no wife or children; and it is very probable that he was a bachelor. Mr. Charles Campbell, in his "History of the Colony and Ancient Dominion of Virginia," published in 1860, (at p. 83,) cites a recent book entitled "A Year with the Turks," by Warrington W. Smyth, A.M., London, the writer of which claims descent from our Captain Smith. It would seem to be a safe proposition for any one bearing the name of Smith, to say that "John Smith" was his ancestor; but it might be more difficult to demonstrate, that a certain John Smith, who lived two or three hundred years ago, bore that relation.

The following letter from our Corresponding Member, H. G. Somerby, Esq., of London, will find an appropriate place here:—

LONDON, January 22, 1867.

MY DEAR MR. DEANE,—I have much pleasure in sending you an abstract of the will of Captain John Smith's father. I have not a full copy; but I hope to visit Lincoln again before long, when I shall copy it *verbatim et literatim*.

I send also an extract from the parish register of Willoughby, which was given to me by the clergyman there. I have not seen the register myself, which I hope I may do sometime, in order to copy all the entries of the name of Smith.

I remain very truly yours,

CHARLES DEANE, Esq.

H. G. SOMERBY.

"George Smith, of Willoughby, near Alford, County Lincoln. Will dated March 30, 1596.† Desires to be buried in the church of Willoughby. Bequeaths to the Right Honorable my Lord Willoughby, under whom I have many years lived as his poor tenant, as a token of my dutiful good-will, the best of my two years' old colts. Wife Alice, whom he commends to his eldest son, John, to honor and love during his life; younger son, Francis Smith; daughter Alice; kinsman, Robert Smith. Appoints his sons John and Francis executors, and George Mettham supervisor. Witnessed by Thomas Sanbrough and Bartholomew Lawrence."

From the Parish Register of Willoughby.

"John, the son of George Smith, was baptized the sixth day of January, 1579."

† Is there not an error in the date of this will as here given? Smith says "he was about thirteen years of age" when his parents died. In March, 1596, he was in his seventeenth year. "True Travels," pp. 1, 2.—C.D.

memory, from a copy which had been communicated to him by Mr. Henry Brooks Adams, the son and private secretary of our distinguished associate, the Hon. Charles Francis Adams, minister at the Court of St. James from the United States. Mr. Deane said that it would be seen that Captain Smith made his mark, instead of signing his name to this instrument; which must be explained by the fact, that it was executed on the day of his death, namely, the 21st of June, 1631.

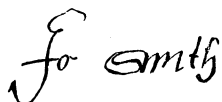
The "Last Will and Testament" of Captain John Smith.

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN the one and twentieth daie of June in the seaventh yeare of the reigne of our soveraigne Lord Charles by the grace of God King of England Scotland France & Ireland defender of the faith &c. I *Captain John Smith* of the parish of S^t Sepulchers London Esquio^r, being sicke in bodye but of perfect mind and memory, thanckes be given unto Almighty God therefore, Revoking all former wills by me heretofore made doe make and ordaine this my last will and testament in manner followinge. First I comēd my soule into the handes of Almighty God my maker hoping through the merittes of Christ Jesus my Redeemer to receive full remission of all my sinnes and to inherit a place in the everlasting kingdome, my body I comitt to the earth from whence it came, to be interred according to the discreçon of myne executors hereunder named, and of such worldlie goodes wherof it hath pleased God in his mercie to make me an unworthie Receaver, I give and bequeath them as hereafter followeth. First I give and bequeath unto Thomas Packer Esq^r one of the clerkes of His Ma^{ties} Privy Seale and to his heires for ever, all my houses landes tenementes and hereditamentes whatsoever scituate lyinge and beinge in the parishes of Lowthe and greate Carleton in the countie of Lincolne together with my coate of armes. Item my will and meaninge is that in consideraçon therof the sayd Thomas Packer shall disburse and paye all such sōmes of money and legacies as hereafter in this my will are given bequeathed and reserved not excedinge the sōme of fowerscore poundes of lawfull money of England, that is to saie: First I reserve unto my selfe to be disposed as I shall thinck good in my life tyme the some of twentie poundes. Item he shall disburse about my funerall the sōme of twentie poundes. Item I give and bequeath out of the resi-

due of the said fourscore poundes as followeth, viz^t I give and bequeath unto my much honored and most worthie freind S^r Samuel Saltonstall knight the some of fyve poundes. Itm to M^{rs} Tredway the some of fyve poundes. Itm to my sister Smith the widowe of my brother the some of tenn poundes. Itm to my cosen Steven Smith and his sister the some of sixe poundes thirteene shillinges and fower pence betweene them. Itm to the said Thomas Packer Joane his wife and Eleano^r his daughter the some of tenn poundes among them. Item to M^r Reynoldes the say M^r of the goldsmiths Hall the some of fortie shillinges, all wth legacies my meaning and will is shall be paid by the said Thomas Packer his heires executors or administrators wthin one yeare after my decease. Item I give unto Thomas Packer sonne of the above sayd Thomas Packer my trunck standing in my chamber at S^r Samuell Saltonstalls house in S^t Sepulchres parish, togeather with my best suite of apparrell of a tawney color viz^t hose doublet jerkin and cloake. Item I give unto him my trunke bound wth iron barres standing in the house of Richard Hinde in Lambeth, togeather wth halfe the bookes therein, to be chosen by the said Thomas Packer and allowed by myne executors, and the other halfe parte of the bookes I give unto M^r John Tredeskin and the said Richard Hind to be divided betweene them. Item I nominate apointe and ordaine my said much honored freind S^r Samuell Saltonstall and the said Thomas Packer the elder, joynt executors of this my last will and testament; the marke of the said John Smith. Read acknowledged sealed and delivered by the said Captaine John Smith to be his last will and testament in the p^sence of us who have subscribed our names: per me Willm^t Keble Sn^r civitatis London, Willm Packer, Elizabeth Sewster, Marmaduke Walker, his marke, witnes.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram venerabili viro Thoma Eden legum doctore surrogati venerabilis viri dni Henrici Marten militis legum etiam doctoris Curie prerogative Cantuariensis magistri custodis sive commissarii legitime constituti primo die mensis Julij A^o Domini 1631 juramento Thome Packer senioris armigeri unius executorum in hujusmodi testamentum nominatorum cui commissa fuit administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum jurium et creditorum dñi defuncti de bene et fideliter administrando eadem ad sancta Dei Evangelia jurat reservata potestate similem commissionem faciend Samueli Saltonstall milit alteri executorum etiam in hujusmodi testamenti nominat cum venerit eandm petitur Ex^r.

Mr. Deane said, that, when he was in London last summer, he saw, at the Public-Record Office, the letter addressed to Lord Bacon by Captain Smith, in 1618, referred to on p. 21, No. 42, of Sainsbury's "Calendar of Colonial Papers." The body of the letter was probably not written by Smith; but the signature, of which a fac-simile is here given, is, in all probability, his.



Mr. Deane also stated, that he saw, at the library of the Society of Antiquaries, in London, in one of the volumes of "Broad-sides," under the year 1623, a copy of Captain Smith's printed prospectus of his "Generall Historie," first printed in 1624; in this, after describing the book, and giving a list of its contents, he concludes thus:—

"These observations are all I haue for the expenses of a thousand pound, and the losse of eighteen yeares of time, besides all the travels, dangers, miseries & incumberances for my countries good, I haue endured gratis; and had I not discouered and liued in the midst of these parts, I could not possibly haue collected the substantial trueth from such an infinite number of variable Relations, that would make a volume of at least a thousand sheetes: and this is composed in lesse then eighty sheetes, besides the three Maps, which will stand me neere in an hundred pounds, which summe I cannot disburse: nor shall the Stationers haue the copy for nothing. Therefore I humbly entreat your Honour, either to adventure, or give me what you please towards the impression and I will be both accountable & thankful: not doubting but that the story will give you satisfaction and stirre vp a double new life in the Adventurers when they

shall see plainly the causes of all those defailements, & how they may be amended.

And so I humbly rest.

While referring to these memorials of Captain Smith, Mr. Deane took occasion to say, that he paid a visit to St. Sepulchre's Church, in London, under the pavement of which the remains of the hero were buried; but he was not able to see the stone placed over those remains, as the floor of the church at the time was covered with a carpet of "kamptulicon," which concealed all the monuments. The epitaph to his memory, however, it is understood, cannot now be deciphered upon its tablet. It was fortunately preserved by an early chronicler, and was printed in Munday and Dyson's edition of Stow's "Survey of London," published in 1633, two years after the death of Smith. As the inscription has not been often reprinted in this country, Mr. Deane thought it might not be deemed inappropriate to copy it here, in the precise form in which it was originally printed.

This Table is on the South side
of the Quire in Saint *Sepulchers*,
with this Inscription.

To the Living Memory of his
deceased Friend, Captaine IOHN
SMITH, who departed this mortall
life on the 21. day of Iune, 1631.
with his Armes, and this Motto,
Accordamus, vincere est vivere.

Here lies one conquer'd
that hath conquer'd Kings,
Subdu'd large Territories,
and done things
Which to the World
impossible would seeme,
But that the truth
is held in more esteeme.

Shall I report
 his former service done
 In honour of his God
 and Christendome :
 How that he did
 divide from Pagans three,
 Their Heads and Lives,
 Types of his Chivalry :
 For which great service
 in that climate done,
 Brave *Sigismundus*
 (King of *Hungarion*)
 Did give him as a Coat
 of Armes to weare,
 Those conquer'd heads
 got by his Sword and Speare ?
 Or shall I tell
 of his adventures since,
 Done in *Virginia*,
 that large Continnence :
 How that he subdu'd
 Kings unto his yoke,
 And made those Heathen flie,
 as wind doth smoke ;
 And made their Land,
 being of so large a Station,
 A habitation
 for our Christian Nation :
 Where God is glorifi'd
 their wants suppli'd,
 Which else for necessaries
 might have di'd ?
 But what availes his Conquest,
 now he lyes
 Inter'd in earth,
 a prey for Wormes and Flies ?
 O may his soule
 in sweet Elizium sleepe,
 Vntil the Keeper
 that all soules doth keepe,
 Returne to Iudgement,
 and that after thence,
 With Angels he may have
 his recompence.

Captaine *Iohn Smith*, sometime Gover-
 nour of *Virginia*, and Admirall
 of *New England*.

Mr. WATERSTON read the following paper, in which he traced some coincidences in the lives of George Herbert and John Cotton: —

GEORGE HERBERT AND JOHN COTTON.

Familiar as these two names are,—one identified with the early experiences of New England, and especially with the history of Boston; the other connected with English literature, through that sacred poetry which has endeared itself to the Christian heart, so quaint and yet so tender, marked by the rarest characteristics of original genius,—these two names do not often, perhaps, present themselves simultaneously to the mind, or appear to have (it may be thought) any thing specially in common; yet there are facts which tend to unite them, and which may enable us pleasantly to associate them together.

First, these eminent men were both born in England;—John Cotton in 1585; George Herbert in 1593: John Cotton being a lad eight years old when Herbert was born. They both studied at Cambridge, and were students in the same college. From Trinity College they both received their degree: John Cotton entered in 1598, at the age of thirteen; George Herbert in 1608, at the age of fifteen. Thus we can associate them with the same classic halls. They pursued their studies under the same instructors; listened to the same lectures; were familiar with the same walks.

John Cotton received the degree of Master of Arts in 1606, only two years before Herbert entered the college; while the very year that Herbert went to Cambridge (a young man fifteen years of age), John Cotton preached a funeral oration before the officers and students of the college, in memory of Dr. Soame, Master of Peter House, which excited much attention by its felicity of language, purity of style, and impressive eloquence. What could be more natural than that

George Herbert should have heard that oration? His habitual seriousness of character, and his own purpose of devoting himself to the ministry, render it more than probable that he was a hearer. The next year (1609), John Cotton preached again at St. Mary's, when so great was the expectation awakened, that unusual interest centred upon the occasion,—the vice-chancellor, with all the professors and gentlemen of the University, being present. Herbert was now sixteen years of age, and had been in college a year. Under such circumstances, is it reasonable to suppose that the attention of George Herbert should not have been directed to such a discourse?

Two years after that, Herbert took his degree of Bachelor of Arts (1611). The year following, John Cotton became vicar in the Church of St. Botolph's, at Boston, Lincolnshire; and George Herbert, in 1619, became Orator of the University: in which important office he continued eight years, greatly honored for his varied learning and his many distinguished gifts.

While Herbert held this position, King James visited Cambridge, attended by the Bishop of Winchester and Sir Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam. The friendship, at that time commenced between Herbert and Lord Bacon, continued ever after. Such was Bacon's respect for the knowledge and judgment of Herbert, that he consulted with him before sending his works to the press, one of which, as a proof of his esteem, he publicly dedicated to Herbert. The year succeeding Herbert's appointment as Orator of the University, the Pilgrim Fathers came over to New England in the "Mayflower."

One may see that there are threads in the history of John Cotton and George Herbert, which come very closely together, and which even appear occasionally to intertwine.

In 1633, John Cotton left the vicarage at Boston, in Lincolnshire, and, under an assumed name (so violent was the spirit of persecution at that time), went to London, from

whence he soon made his escape; and, embarking in the Downs in July, arrived at New England on the fourth of September, 1633.

It was in this year (1633), that the Poems of George Herbert, now enjoying a world-wide reputation, were published. Herbert had, in 1630, become connected with the little parsonage at Bemerton, a short distance from Salisbury; to the grand Cathedral of which city it was his delight to go, that he might listen to the church music.

Herbert falling seriously ill, as he drew near the close of his earthly life, he sent for his beloved friend, Farrer; and, to the person by whom he sent the message, he said, "Sir, I beg you to tell my brother Farrer, that my heart is fixed on that place where true joy is only to be found, and that I long to be there, and do wait for my appointed change with hope and patience." Having said this, he did, with so sweet a humility as seemed to exalt him, and with a thoughtful and contented look, bow down and say, "Sir, I pray you, deliver this little book to my dear brother Farrer; and tell him he shall find in it a picture of the many spiritual conflicts that have passed betwixt God and my soul. Desire him to read it; then, if he can think it may turn to the advantage of any dejected, poor soul, let it be made public: if not, let him burn it."

This was that excellent collection of Poems now known as "THE TEMPLE," of which Mr. Farrer would say, "that the whole book was such a harmony of holy passions as would enrich the world with pleasure and piety."

Is there any thing in these Poems to remind us of John Cotton? It is certainly pleasant to remember, that this precious volume of Herbert's was given to the world in the same year that John Cotton left his native land and came to these shores.

But, in addition, let us observe this interesting fact: When the manuscripts of the volume were sent to Cambridge (the place where both Cotton and Herbert had studied), in order

that the requisite license for the press might be obtained from the vice-chancellor, in reading the manuscripts, the following remarkable lines arrested attention:—

“Religion stands a tiptoe in our land,
Ready to pass to the American strand.”

Startled by these words (which at that day, in England, had great significance, covering a depth of meaning which many now can hardly comprehend), the vice-chancellor declared he could not allow them to be printed. On the other hand, Mr. Farrer insisted that he would by no means allow the book to be printed without them. Upon this subject much time was spent, and arguments were offered for and against. It is a curious thought, that this volume hung, at that moment, in the balance; so that it became doubtful whether the book would ever see the light, because of those two lines.

However, Farrer stood up valiantly for the whole book, declaring these words essential, and that they must keep their place; until at length the vice-chancellor said, “I knew Mr. Herbert well, and that he had many heavenly speculations, and was a divine poet; but I hope the world will not take him to be an inspired prophet, and therefore I will license the whole book.” Thus it was that the book came to be printed without the loss of a syllable.

Now (without pausing to ask whether any distinct recollections of John Cotton were lingering in Herbert’s mind when he wrote these lines, though we think nothing is more probable than that such should have been the case), this is certain, he must have been thinking of those who, like John Cotton, were ready to leave their native land, and, for conscience’ sake and the cause of religion, were seeking refuge in what was then a savage wilderness. He was dwelling upon this thought with sympathetic feeling, and a lively sense of appreciation. So much so, that he exclaimed, it is not heresy;

it is not fanaticism: it is RELIGION herself that is departing for that distant shore.

Thus it is that George Herbert says (in language extraordinary at that time, and the more so as coming from one in the bosom of the Established Church),—

“Religion stands a tiptoe in our land,
Ready to pass to the American strand;”—

while at that moment, (July, 1633), Religion, in the person of JOHN COTTON, was standing tiptoe on the shores of the old world; and, embarking at the Downs, did pass, in very deed, to the American strand; where, on the 4th of September, a hearty welcome was extended to him by Governor Winthrop. Within one month, the same John Cotton, whose voice had so long been heard under the Gothic arches of St. Botolph's, was chosen teacher of the First Church, in our Boston; and there, within the mud walls, and beneath the thatched roof, of that humble building, his words of instruction and sacred counsel were heard; the name of the student of Trinity College, Cambridge, becoming identified with the history of this land, and the company of devout men whose memory can never pass away.

The President called attention to a photograph, lying upon the table, of a “Design for the proposed Soldier's Monument to be erected on Boston Common; height, 120 feet,”—presented by W. G. Brooks.

The President referred to a small volume of manuscript Sermons, lying upon the table, recently presented to the Society. The book had been given to Dr. Jenks, and was received by his family after his decease. At their request, the donor, Mr. Simeon Colton, of Asheborough, Randolph County, North Carolina, formerly a resident of New England, presented the volume to this Society. Dr. Appleton, the Assistant-

librarian, had pasted the following memorandum in the book : —

“The autograph in this volume must be that of the Rev. Samuel Mather, of Windsor, Connecticut, the eldest son of Timothy, and grandson of Richard Mather; born, 5th of September, 1651; graduated at Harvard College, 1671; ordained, 1682; and died, 18th of March, 1728. The date, apparently 1636, is undoubtedly 1686, a part of the figure 8 being effaced. — J. A., Dec. 26, 1866.”

The Sermons in the volume bear date 1686–1688.

The thanks of the Society were returned to Mr. Colton for the volume.

FEBRUARY MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, February 14th, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; Colonel ASPINWALL, the senior Vice-President (in the absence of the President), in the chair.

The Librarian announced donations from the City of Boston; the American Numismatic and Archæological Society; the American Philosophical Society; the Boston Athenæum; the Essex Institute; the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec; the New-England Historic-Genealogical Society; the New-Hampshire Historical Society; the New-Jersey Historical Society; Oberlausitzische Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Görlitz; the State Historical Society of Wisconsin; the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History;

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- Young, Stephen J., donations from, 196, 357.
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E R R A T A.

The reader is requested to make the following corrections:—

Page 246, line 24, for "Ingraham's" read "Ingram's."

" " after line 31, insert "The subject was referred to the Standing Committee, with full powers."

" 446, line 28, insert "limited" after "former."